

Message Text

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ORIGIN OES-07

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 126168

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TPHY, TBIO, UR

SUBJECT: NOAA MARINE SCIENCE RESEARCH

REF: A. STATE 170317 OF JULY 10, 1976
B. MOSCOW 11122 OF JULY 14, 1976

1. IN THE SUMMER AND FALL OF 1976 THE NATIONAL OCEANIC
AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION (NOAA) CONDUCTED A RESEARCH
PROGRAM IN THE BERING SEA. THE RESEARCH WAS CONDUCTED BY
THE NOAA SHIP DISCOVERER AND UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII'S
MOANA WAVE IN SUPPORT OF THE OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF
ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM, AS DESCRIBED REFTEL A. BRIEFLY,
THE PURPOSE OF THE RESEARCH IS DESIGNED TO PROVIDE COM-
PREHENSIVE ENVIRONMENTAL AND BIOLOGICAL DATA AND INFORMA-
TION ON THE ALASKA CONTINENTAL SHELF LEASE AREAS AND TO
DEFINE THE PROBABLE ECOLOGICAL IMPACT OF OIL EXPLORATION,
PRODUCTION, STORAGE, AND TRANSHIPMENT.

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2. THE CURRENT METERS WHICH WERE DEPLOYED BY THE
DISCOVERER NOW WILL BE RETRIEVED BY THE NOAA RESEARCH
VESSEL SURVEYOR. THIS IS PLANNED TO TAKE PLACE BETWEEN
11 AUG AND 2 SEPT 1977. ADDITIONALLY, CONDUCTIVITY/
TEMPERATURE/DEPTH CTD STATIONS, CURRENT MEASUREMENTS FROM
THE SURVEYOR WHILE THE SHIP IS AT ANCHOR, METEOROLOGICAL

AND MAMMAL AND BIRD OBSERVATIONS WILL BE MADE. ALL STATIONS ARE AT LEAST 19 NM FROM THE SOVIET COAST. A STATION LOCATION CHART IS BEING POUCHED.

3. SURVEYOR IS 3150 GROSS TONS, 293 FT. LONG, WITH AN 18 FT. DRAFT. SHIP'S CAPTAIN IS CDR. JAMES G. GRUNWELL WITH A CREW OF 74 AND 8 SCIENTISTS. RADIO CALL SIGN IS WTES AND SHIP MONITORS EMERGENCY FREQUENCIES.

4. BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL: VICE PRESIDENT SIDORENKO OF THE ACADEMY OF SCIENCES EXPRESSED SOME INTEREST IN THIS PROJECT LAST YEAR (REFTEL B). IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO INFORM HIM OF THE RESEARCH PLAN, WHICH WOULD ALSO SERVE TO ANNOUNCE THE PRESENCE OF THE SURVEYOR TO THE SOVIETS. TWO BERTHS ARE AVAILABLE FOR SOVIET SCIENTISTS IF THEY WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE. IF THEY RAISE OBJECTIONS IT WOULD PROVIDE US WITH OPPORTUNITY TO RECONSIDER THE EXECUTION OF THE PROJECT. THIS INFORMATION SHOULD NOT BE PRESENTED IN A MANNER WHICH WOULD MAKE IT APPEAR TO BE A REQUEST FOR PERMISSION TO CONDUCT THE RESEARCH. END CONFIDENTIAL. HABIB

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Message Attributes

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